

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-8 (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A shield for preventing arcing from an electrical stud of a portable welding apparatus, the shield comprising a generally inverted U-shaped configuration adapted to at least partially surround the electrical stud, the shield constructed of a non-conductive material, the inverted U-shaped shield having a first planar side having an upper edge, a second planar side extending inwardly from the upper edge of the first planar side and having an inner edge, the second planar side oriented in a plane generally perpendicular to the plane of the first planar side, a third planar side extending from the inner edge of the second planar side, the third planar side oriented in a plane generally parallel to the plane of the first planar side to form the inverted U-shape.

10. (Previously Presented) The shield of claim 9 wherein the non-conductive material is a plastic material and is preformed into the inverted U-shaped configuration.

11. (Previously Presented) The shield of claim 9 wherein the plastic material is MYLAR plastic and has a thickness of about 10-15 thousandths of an inch.

12-20 (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A portable welding-type apparatus comprising:
a housing configured to enclose a plurality of components comprising a welding-type apparatus;
an electrical bus enclosed within the housing and configured to supply power to perform a welding-type process; and
an electrical shield configured to shield at least a portion of the electrical bus from arcing.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the electrical bus includes an electrical terminal forming an electrical stud.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the electrical shield is configured to at least partially surround the electrical stud to prevent arcing between the electrical stud and plurality of components comprising a welding-type apparatus.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the electrical stud comprises a negative electrical terminal.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the electrical shield is electrically non-conductive.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the electrical shield is formed in a substantially U-shape.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the substantially U-shape includes a first planar side having an upper edge, a second planar side extending inwardly from the upper edge of the first planar side and having an inner edge, the second planar side oriented in a plane generally perpendicular to the plane of the first planar side, a third planar side extending from the inner edge of the second planar side, the third planar side oriented in a plane generally parallel to the plane of the first planar side to form the U-shape.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the electrical shield is formed in a substantially inverted U-shape.

29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the electrical shield is comprised of MYLAR.

30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the welding-type process includes at least one of a TIG process, a stick process, a plasma cutting process, and an induction heating process.

31. (Previously Presented) A welding-type device comprising:
means for controlling a welding-type process;

means for supplying power to the means for controlling the welding-type process; and

means for shielding the means for supplying power to prevent arcing from the means for supplying power to the means for controlling the welding-type process.

32. (Previously Presented) The welding-type device of claim 31 wherein the means for shielding includes an electrical shield comprised of a non-conductive material.

33. (Previously Presented) The welding-type device of claim 32 wherein the non-conductive material includes MYLAR.

34. (Previously Presented) The welding-type device of claim 31 wherein the means for shielding includes an inverted substantially U-shaped shield configured to surround at least a portion of the means for supplying power.

35. (Previously Presented) The welding-type device of claim 31 wherein the means for supplying power includes an electrical stud configured to deliver power from a receptacle to the means for controlling the welding-type process.

36. (Previously Presented) The welding-type device of claim 35 wherein the means for shielding is configured to surround at least a portion of the electrical stud to prevent electrical arcing from the electrical stud.

37. (Previously Presented) The welding-type device of claim 31 further comprising a means for switching a welding-type process controlled by the means for controlling a welding-type process between a TIG operation mode and a stick operation mode.